

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following claims as amended:

1. (original) A blade arrangement for a gas turbine engine, the blade arrangement comprising:

a plurality of blades mounted for rotation on a disc so as to extend radially outwardly therefrom; and

a retention member, the retention member including an attachment portion which is attached to the disc and an abutment portion for resisting forward axial movement of at least one of the blades relative to the disc ;

wherein the blade arrangement further comprises restraint means spaced from the attachment portion of the retention member, for substantially preventing radially outward movement of the abutment portion of the retention member when a forward axial force is applied by the blade to the abutment portion wherein the attachment portion of the retention member is located axially forwardly of the abutment portion and of the restraint means.

2. (currently amended) A blade arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the blade arrangement ~~[[forming]]~~ forms part of a low pressure compressor or fan.

3. (original) A blade arrangement according to claim 1 wherein the retention member is shaped such that the abutment portion contacts part of the blade when a forward axial force is applied to the blade, to resist forward axial movement of the blade.

4. (original) A blade arrangement according to claim 3 wherein the geometry of the blade arrangement is such that when the blade applies a forward axial force to the abutment portion of the retention member, a vector representing the resultant force applied to the retention member passes substantially through the attachment portion of the retention member.

5. (original) A blade arrangement according to claim 4 wherein the restraint means includes a part of the retention member which is shaped such that its radial movement is substantially prevented by an adjacent part of the blade or the disc.

6. (currently amended) A blade arrangement for a gas turbine engine, the blade arrangement comprising:

a plurality of blades mounted for rotation on a disc so as to extend radially outwardly therefrom; and

a retention member, the retention member including an attachment portion which is attached to the disc and an abutment portion for resisting forward axial movement of at least one of the blades relative to the disc ;

where in the blade arrangement further comprises restraint means spaced from the attachment portion of the retention member, for substantially preventing radially outward movement of the abutment portion of the retention member when a forward axial force is applied by the blade to the abutment portion wherein the retention member is shaped such that the abutment portion contacts part of the blade when a forward axial force is applied to the blade, to resist forward axial movement of the blade wherein the geometry of the blade arrangement is such that when the blade applies a forward axial force to the abutment portion of the retention member, a vector representing the resultant force applied to the retention member passes substantially through the attachment portion of the retention member wherein the restraint means includes a part of the retention member which is shaped such that its radial movement is substantially prevented by an adjacent part of the blade or the disc A blade arrangement according to claim 5 wherein the said part of the retention member comprises a restraint member extending from a remainder of the retention member in an axially rearwards direction, the adjacent part of the blade or disc being located radially outwardly of the restraint member.

7. (original) A blade arrangement according to claim 6 wherein the abutment portion and the restraint member together comprise a portion of the restraint member which is generally L-shaped in section.

8. (currently amended) A blade arrangement according to claim 6 wherein the attachment portion of the retention member is located axially forwardly of the abutment portion and of the restraint means.

9. (original) A blade arrangement according to claim 8 wherein the disc also

includes an attachment portion, to which the retention member is attached, via a bolt arrangement, the bolt extending in the axial direction, and passing through both respective attachment portions of the retention member and the disc.

10. (currently amended) A blade arrangement according to claim 9 wherein the ~~retention member~~ restraint means includes an arm portion which extends between the attachment portion and the restraint member, the arm portion being angled at between 40° and 70° to the axial direction of the blade arrangement.

11. (original) A blade arrangement according to claim 10 wherein the arm portion includes an undercut shoulder, which is generally L-shaped in section, and of complementary shaped to a radially outer corner of the attachment portion.

12. (original) A blade arrangement according to claim 10 wherein the arm portion is substantially frustoconical in shape.

13. (currently amended) A blade arrangement according to claim 1 wherein the restraint ~~[[member]]~~ means is substantially cylindrical in shape, and the adjacent part of the fan blade or disc comprises a substantially cylindrical member, located radially outwardly of and adjacent to the restraint ~~[[member]]~~ means, to substantially prevent radially outward movement of the restraint ~~[[member]]~~ means.

14. (currently amended) A blade arrangement for a gas turbine engine, the blade arrangement comprising:

_____ a plurality of blades mounted for rotation on a disc so as to extend radially outwardly therefrom; and

_____ a retention member, the retention member including an attachment portion which is attached to the disc and an abutment portion for resisting forward axial movement of at least one of the blades relative to the disc ;

_____ where in the blade arrangement further comprises restraint means spaced from the attachment portion of the retention member, for substantially preventing radially outward movement of the abutment portion of the retention member when a forward axial force is applied by the blade to the abutment portion A ~~blade arrangement according to claim 1~~ wherein the restraint ~~[[member]]~~ means comprises an elongate finger, located between the disc and the blade, the finger

extending rearwardly from a remainder of the retention member, in the axial direction.

15. (original) A blade arrangement according to claim 14 wherein the retention member includes a plurality of elongate fingers each located between a blade and the disc, an elongate finger being located between each blade and the disc.

16. (original) A gas turbine engine including a low pressure compressor or fan including a blade arrangement according to claim 1.

17. (new) A blade arrangement according to claim 1 wherein the retention member includes an arm portion which extends between the attached portion and the restraint means, the arm portion being angled at between 40° and 70° to the axial direction of the blade arrangement.